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EMPLOYMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN AGRICULTURE.

THE story of the two knights who quarrelled about the metal of the shield before which they severally stood, is but a type of the difficulties which embarrass human evidence. The shield was gold on one side, and silver on the other, so that each doughty horseman saw a different sight, and did but contend for the evidence of his own senses. Just so it is with the ordinary controversies of life; the most faithful witnesses can but tell what they have seen, and perfectly different spectacles have been represented on their retinae. Besides which, the eye is under the guidance of the mind, and if the same general scenes are spread before it, different points are selected by different observers; a Rembrandt and a Rubens do not see with the same eyes, any more than they paint with the same brush.

The celebrated picture of the happiness of a country life, in the *Georgics*, and the painful descriptions of agricultural destitution in more prosaic writers, are quite reconcileable, when we consider that the Latin poet drew the small farmer, and the prose historians his half-starved drudge. *

The pauper's funeral, given with hard fidelity by Crabbe, depresses the reader's mind. Not so the picture where Poussin has represented a dance of nymphs and their swains, near a monument bearing the inscription *ego quoque lusi in Arcadia*.

However similar objects may be, nay, if they are absolutely identical, they become different when viewed through the tinged lens of different spectators. To some melancholy Jaques the county of Hampshire may seem a huge mass of discontented husbandmen, who feed the bacon which they must not eat; to Miss Mitford it is an *Arcadia* of happy faces, where the very Doricisms are delightful.

The rustic gallantry, too, which has ever been the accompaniment of hay-making, is viewed in a different light by the withered critic, and the genial poet of the Seasons. But however opinion may differ on these points, there is one on which it is unanimous. Husbandmen, the most useful members of society, are everywhere, as far as regards the reward of their labors, at the bottom of the social scale. In some countries they are still serfs, in others but lately emancipated from serfdom; but throughout Europe their state is so little raised above that of villainage, that no-

thing but the main force of the law, nothing but wisdom guided by benevolence (the two are, perhaps, one) can save them from sinking into this slough of despond.

In England the system of *praedial bondage* died out in the reign of Elizabeth; in some of the mines of Scotland, it existed, as we learn from Walter Scott, as late as the middle of the last century. In Franche-Comté, according to Voltaire, it not only existed, but, by an incredible refinement of absurdity, the cultivation of certain farms imposed the state of villains on those who were previously free; so that while the touch of our British soil gave freedom to the slave, the cultivation of this wretched country deprived the husbandman of the birthright of the human race.

In Prussia the emancipation of the bondmen did not take place till 1807. Even before the battle of Jena thinking men had seen that villainage was one of the great causes of the weakness of the Prussian monarchy. It had been denounced by Frederick the Great as a "*gestion abominable*"; but it was not until the kingdom had fallen at the shock of a single battle, that Stein, the statesman who then conducted the destinies of Prussia, determined to heal this devouring ulcer.

Yet in all these countries, even in England itself, the rustic population is prevented from sinking back into serfdom, rather by the benevolent interference of the educated classes, than by any dogged spirit of resistance in the husbandmen themselves. Were the matter left entirely to ploughmen and petty farmers to settle between them, without the interference of the law, or the criticisms of public opinion, our half-fed cottagers might too often sell their birth-right for a mess of pottage. As it is, the condition of our farm apprentices approaches far nearer to that of slaves or serfs than it is pleasant to acknowledge.

By the French Code, indeed, no contract is valid by which a man barters away his liberty; and it is to be hoped that should a fit occasion arise, our common law would be interpreted in a similar spirit.

These preliminary reflections have been called forth by the late reports of the special Assistant Poor-Law Commissioners, on the employment of women and children in agriculture, now lying before us.

These Commissioners were four in number, all barristers; and they were directed to inquire into the sorts of labor at which women and children are employed in agriculture; the wages which they receive; the hours of work; the age at which they begin to work; and the effects which their occupation produces upon their health, as well as upon their opportunities for obtaining school instruction and religious education; and they were also desired to investigate the condition of the children of agricultural laborers apprenticed by parish officers.

The four Assistant Commissioners examined into the state of twelve counties; and as their time was limited to thirty days, it is obvious that much of their information must have been picked up at a canter. Yet, in spite of this disadvantage, their reports read like the compilation of sensible men, not very deeply tinctured with Malthusian fantasies; and some part of it will be a novelty, not only to the natives of the *pays de*

cocagne, but even to the home-bred rustics. Mr. Alfred Austin, whose report stands first in the book, took the counties of Wilts, Dorset, Devon and Somerset ; and in order not to fritter away his time in forced marches over so large a space, he confined himself to two districts in Devonshire, and one in each of the remaining counties. The wages of women who work in the fields vary, in general, from 7d. to 1s. a day in these counties ; though rates above and below these are mentioned. For this slender stipend they work from 8, A. M. to 4, P. M., in winter ; at other times, from 8 to 6, and in the hay-harvest from 6 to 6.

The effect of out-door farm labor on adult women appears to be favorable to health. Mr. Austin did not meet with an instance of a woman complaining of its being injurious.

" Sometimes such work, particularly in the hay and corn-harvests, was represented by women who performed it as being laborious, as making them stiff at first, or even as straining them ; but I did not find that any woman, from her own statement, had become subject to any permanent disease or infirmity from the employment in question."

There is a good deal of evidence, however, scattered up and down these reports, to show that field-work demoralizes women, or at any rate, girls. Woman is a domestic creature, and a mother does more service to society by tending her children, and going through the details of her little household, than by mowing grass or hoeing turnips. On the Continent, where the employment of women in field-labor is even more common than in England, it has always seemed to us that it rapidly destroys the graces of youth, and gives the look of a hard-a-weather sailor to a middle-aged woman. But it is more easy to see the evil than to provide a remedy.

The next question is, how are these laboring women placed with regard to food, clothing and lodging ?

The majority of them are married, and the greater number of the single ones live with their parents. (Mr. Austin says they are " sometimes grown-up daughters, living with their parents.") Hence their earnings are merely part of the aggregate income of the family ; and to know their condition we must learn that of their husbands and fathers.

Now, the wages of the laborer in the district of Wiltshire, visited by Mr. Austin (in the neighborhood of Calne), are from eight to ten shillings a week ; in the Dorsetshire district they are higher ; in the Devonshire one about the same as in Dorsetshire. In the part of Somersetshire visited, they are even lower than in Wiltshire ; but here the laborer has an allowance of three pints of cider daily, which are considered both by master and man to be worth a shilling or fifteen pence per week. Sometimes, of course, the income is beyond this, as when the wife and children add to the common fund ; but, on the whole, the receipts of a laborer are exceedingly small, and his diet low in proportion. Thus, in Wiltshire, the food of the laborer and his family is bread and potatoes, with the occasional luxury of beer, a little butter, and tea. To these are sometimes added cheese and bacon, and near Calne, the entrails, or " in'ards " of the pig. " In more than one cottage," says Mr. Austin, " where the

mother went out to work, or two of the boys were earning, perhaps, 3s. or 3s. 6d. a week between them, I saw a side of bacon hanging against the wall; but nothing of the kind was visible when the only earnings were those of the husband, or the family was numerous and young. Where, from poverty, bacon cannot be obtained, a little fat is used to give a flavor to the potatoes."

In Dorset and Devon matters are a trifle better; but Somerset is on a level with Wilts.

As to lodging, Mr. Austin's account is painful indeed, both physically and morally. Let us hope that, to use the phraseology of the day, he has drawn his induction from too small a number of instances. He says that the want of sufficient accommodation seems universal. Cottages, generally speaking, have only one, or at most two, bed-rooms, so that adults of both sexes constantly sleep in the same room, and not unfrequently three or four persons in the same bed.

At Stourpain village, near Blandford, he found in a cottage, a bedroom, ten feet square, containing three beds, and eleven occupants of them! The father, mother, two infants, two twin daughters, aged 20, and a son aged 17, were among the tenants of this crowded room. In Stourpain, there is a row of laborers' cottages so miserably constructed that they are surrounded by streams of filth from pig-sties, and privies placed a few yards above them. "It was in these cottages that a malignant typhus broke out two years ago, which afterwards spread through the village."

Nor are the moral consequences less grievous than the physical.

If we may believe Mr. Austin, the licentiousness produced by this deficient accommodation has not always respected the family relationship!

In this, as in other matters, much depends on the landlord. Thus, in Studley, the rent of cottages is from £3 to £4 a year, and families are crowded together in the most indecent manner. In Foxton, which adjoins it, the cottages all belong to the Marquis of Lansdowne, who lets them at half that rent, but will not allow more than one family to occupy one tenement at the same time. Each cottage has at least three rooms. In consequence of this difference in the arrangements, says Lord Lansdowne's agent, the laborers at Foxton are a superior kind of people to those at Studley.

We shall continue this subject on an early occasion.—*Lon. Med. Gaz.*

SPIDERS DISCHARGED FROM THE EYE.—HYSTERIC MONOMANIA.

By A. Lopez, M.D., Mobile, Ala.

I WAS requested on the 5th of February, 1840, to visit a young lady, from whose mother I received the following statement. The patient had left the city of Charleston, S. C. (at which place I then was), to visit a friend who resided in the country. On the night of the 29th of January, while conversing in bed, she was sensible that some object had fallen from the ceiling of the apartment, upon her cheek, just below the inferior lid. This

caused her to apply the hand briskly and forcibly in order to brush off, what she supposed to be some one of the many insects so common in country houses, upon which, the friend with whom she slept observed, that as the room was much infested with spiders, it was probable that the object which had fallen was one of them. In the course of the night she was awakened by a feeling of intense pain in *her left eye*, which continued at intervals until morning, when, upon examination, the eye was discovered to be highly *inflamed* and *lachrymose*. Ordinary domestic means were applied, and during the morning feeling an intense degree of itching and irritation, she rubbed the lids together upon the ball and removed *two fragments* which were readily recognized as the *dismembered parts of a spider*. Her alarm in consequence became very great, and was much heightened when the same thing was repeated in the afternoon. She left for home, and arrived in Charleston on the 2d February. During the voyage her mind was much perturbed and under considerable excitement from the event, and when I paid my first visit on the 5th, the date mentioned in the early part of my statement, the following was her condition: the right eye unaffected; the *left*, turgid, inflamed and weeping; and there *had been removed from it, that morning, a spider*, imbedded in a mucous covering. It was entire with the exception of two legs. The two preceding days before I had seen her *three others* had been removed, and were now exhibited to me. I immediately submitted the eye to as close an examination as the irritable condition of the parts permitted, *without being able to discover the minutest portion of any foreign substance*. In order, however, to combat the pain and inflammation, I ordered leeches, saline-antimonial medicines, and evaporating lotions. I thenceforward visited her daily until the 19th, and at *every visit I removed either an entire or dismembered spider from the same eye*. Before proceeding it will be well to mention that during the interval between the 5th and 19th, I invited to an examination of the case, Professors Geddings and Dickson, and Drs. Bellinger and Wurdeman. Dr. Dickson on one or two occasions also removed these objects from the patient's eye. I made, assisted by Prof. Geddings, the most minute scrutiny with a view of discovering, *first*, whether there could possibly exist a *nidus* within the orbit for these animals; *second*, whether a *sac* containing their *ova* was there concealed; and *third*, if any communication between the eye and nose could account for their appearance. For these purposes, the superior and inferior palpebrae were everted with great care, traversed thoroughly with a blunt probe, and afterwards I threw injections around the internal lining, but all to no avail. The anterior and posterior nares were closely examined by strong light, both of the sun and candle, yet we could not perceive the slightest trace of any means by which either *ova*, insect or *nidus* could be retained.

The sensations always precursory to their removal were, a sense of burning in the ball, a pricking of the superior lid, proceeding more or less severely around the orbit, until it assumed a fixed pain within the lower lid, upon the eversion of which by myself, if present, or by her mother, in my absence, the spider, always dead, would be discovered enshrouded

in its mucous bed, and removed by means of the finger or probe. I now resume the order of their discharge. From the 19th they were removed *from both eyes*, and so continued until the 23d, when again they became confined to the left, and afterwards *from each eye alternately* until the 5th of March, when a truce was had until the 10th. During this interval the eyes resumed their normal condition, but again on the 10th the inflammation was renewed, and the discharge of spiders recommenced, the *right eye* being now chiefly the depository. Up to this date, during which time my visits were unremittingly made, none other than general observations were kept, but the spider-making power appearing so inexhaustible, a more circumstantial diary was thought necessary.

March 10th.—Two spiders.

11th.—Two. Pain over right orbital region passing gradually over the frontal sinus to the left. Sharp pricking pains upon pressure.

12th.—Previous to my visit, one from the left eye, *which was much less inflamed than the right*.

13th.—Eyes much improved in appearance. One discharged since my last visit, and another just previous to my departure this morning. As this discharge served greatly to perplex the views at which I shall arrive before I conclude this paper, it may not be irrelevant to notice it. I have mentioned the scrupulousness with which the eye and its appendages were examined in order to elicit, if possible, any clue by which to unravel this enigma, and the fruitlessness of those exertions. It appears, then, that on the day of this visit (the 13th) a spider was removed before my arrival. A servant was despatched for it to a neighbor's whither it had been sent for examination. Some time elapsed before her return, during which time I sat in such a relative position to the patient as to preclude all possibility of deception, and I had this day, as was my wont at every visit, made a careful examination of the eye without discovering a vestige of any kind of substance. Upon the return of the servant I rose to depart, at which moment the patient complained of pain, and in a few seconds, by turning down the lower lid, *I removed another spider*.

15th.—Eyes extremely healthy and clear. On the 13th, just after my visit, the mother removed *three* spiders, two entire and one broken; also a *putrid substance*, the precise nature of which I could not define. No others discharged to date.

17th.—None since 15th. Right eye more affected; upper lid much irritated and swollen. Left eye healthy.

18th.—Right eye still inflamed—discharged a *portion of web* from the inner canthus.

19th.—Eyes the same—*another piece of web*.

20th.—Eyes perfectly natural. After my departure on the 19th, there was removed a *sacculum containing ova*.

27th.—None since 20th until to-day. The left eye being inflamed and painful, she was advised by a friend to insert an eye stone, which at its exit protruded *one spider, of the long-legged kind, entire*.

April 6th.—None since 27th ultimo. Eyes healthy and generally improved in their appearance.

13th.—None since 6th. Eyes healthy; has used them since my last visit, in sewing and reading, without inconvenience.

May 14th.—None since 13th of April. Eyes healthy until a few days past; to-day they are weak, lachrymose, and slightly injected. They however improved under remedial measures, and the case terminated.

The total number of spiders removed from commencement was between forty and fifty. During the progress of this very singular case, the treatment was regulated according to the greater or less degree of local or general disturbance. The patient was restored to good health, and continued so uninterruptedly to the date of my leaving Carolina in November, 1840.

I have presented the facts as succinctly as possible, and here perhaps, in the opinion of many, it should rest; but other considerations may offer themselves to warrant a further notice. They are these:—1st, a case so anomalous and of so unusual occurrence, could not well exist without necessarily exciting an intense degree of public curiosity, and in fact, becoming, as it did, a subject of general notoriety and discussion in the various public presses of the Union, all of which, however, were strictly unprofessional, as this is the first entire and correct statement yet made on the subject by myself. 2d, the character and respectability of the patient, as well as her mother, being familiarly known to me for many years, preclude the remotest suspicion of any desire to impose, or to acquire a spurious notoriety on the part of the daughter, or of the countenance of fraud by the mother. 3d, the pathological history of the patient, which I will proceed to give, and which has induced me to distinguish this case as one unequivocally of *hysterical monomania*.

In adopting this *rationale* I am of opinion that I conform more strictly to the category within whose scope are embraced so many equally singular and otherwise inexplicable perversions of the nervous system, and under the influence of which, the most remarkable anomalies have been produced. I, moreover, am disposed to regard it rather as a melancholy, though interesting feature of *disease*, than a subject of levity to be classed among the nine-day wonders of every-day report. The father of the patient was a man of peculiarly nervous temperament and excitability. The patient from her childhood exhibited a due inheritance of that temperament, which became more strongly developed at that age, which, in females, so strikingly calls into action the spontaneous play of every nervous affinity. The establishment of the catamenial period corresponded with this complication. Her natural disposition was variable, at times cheerful, sometimes gloomy, but more commonly timid and reserved.

In 1839 I attended her for an attack of chorea, during which many peculiarities were observable, and a few months preceding the invasion of the case now under consideration, she was under my care for a neuralgic affection, terminating in a tremulousness of her upper extremities corresponding with what Good in his *Neurotica* recognizes as "*synclonus tremor*," except that here the morbid action is exhibited on attempt

at voluntary motion, whereas, in this case, it was independent of such causes. In the presence of these facts, to wit, the entire confidence entertained not only by myself but all others, in the strict veracity and irreproachable integrity of the parties, the predisposing and salient qualities in the idiosyncrasy of the patient, and the indisputable, though too frequently unexplained effects resulting from a morbid condition of the nervous system—effects impressing their astounding influences not only upon the physical but also upon the psychological nature of man—can we, without becoming amenable to the charge of an indifference incompatible with the proper spirit of inquiry which is so peculiarly the province of medical philosophy, refrain from devoting a little time to the investigation of this case.

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It now remains to attempt some explanation as to the means by which the spiders obtained their "local habitation" in the eyes of my patient. As might be supposed, conjectures were not idle, and the reasons assigned assumed their complexion in proportion as the credulity or scepticism of individuals prevailed. Those who yielded to the first, of course resorted to the intervention of miraculous agency, while the latter class believed it to be an artful endeavor to impose upon the community. I need not reiterate how unjust and unphilosophical such suspicions must appear under the historical features of this case. The only attempt to explain it by a natural and direct probable cause, was published by a Mr. Meddler, of Erie, Pennsylvania. In a letter addressed to the postmaster of Charleston, he gives the natural history and habits of the *wood-spider*, which, he says, unlike the rest of that class of insects who propagate their young from eggs, "*bring them forth in perfect form*," and the female carries them about, attached to the extremity of the tail. Mr. Meddler thinks, therefore, that it was one of this class which fell upon the young lady's cheek, and that the effort to brush it off separated the young from the point of attachment, upon which they took different directions, some into the eyes and others into the nostrils, whence they "*could easily pass*" to the eyes, and become killed there by the touch. He also thinks that the spiders discharged from the eyes "*were at different stages of maturity, and not of different species.*"

Now, Mr. Meddler errs in every particular. The wood-spider "*bring forth their young in perfect form.*" We have shown that one of the articles removed on the 20th of March, was *a sacculum containing ova*. Again, his idea of their passage into the eye at the moment of accident is disproved, because I have stated the extreme care with which I repeatedly examined that organ and all its appendages; and *surely if the extraordinary number discharged from first to last had been lodged therein, they could not have escaped observation.* They were not in the nostril, for I have also said that due exploration was there made; moreover, the communications between the nose and eyes, *even in a healthy condition*, could not possibly have admitted the passage of bodies as large as many of these spiders were, much less under the high state of inflammation and swelling in which they were almost constantly found. Lastly, Mr. Med-

dler, deriving his history of the case solely from newspaper reports, originating with persons unacquainted with its character and progress, errs in thinking that the spiders were only "at different stages of maturity," and not of different species. The spiders removed from the eye were subjected to close microscopic examination by myself, assisted by several professional gentlemen accustomed to scientific investigations, among whom was the Rev. Dr. Bachman, whose reputation precludes all doubt, and we discovered at least *three different species*, distinguished by the anatomical classification of *Latreille, Walkenar and Hentz*. But even supposing them to have been lodged "in perfect form," the fact that they were subjected to a residence in depraved secretions unfit to preserve the lives of insects, forbids the belief that they could have reached the different stages of size and maturity which they presented, much less so then could we suppose them to have been hatched by incubation either in the eyes or nostrils. I am then constrained to discard from my mind the presumption that they were lodged and perfected *previously to their discharge*, or that they were placed there by the patient in a *healthy condition of feeling* and with a desire to impose.

The only suggestion left for my adoption is this: that from all the preceding history of my patient, there existed a want of nervous integrity, so operating upon the mind as to produce the form of disease which I have distinguished in my text as *hysterick monomania*; and I am induced to think that the various types of mental irregularities, which an unbalanced nervous system is so familiarly known to produce, sustain the belief. It is needless on this occasion to investigate the diversified operations of the human mind in its physical and pathological relations, or to refer to the multiform phases it is capable of assuming under the excitement to which it is subjected by the agents which are perpetually at work upon its impressionable nature; suffice it to say, that the history of the different forms of insanity, from the highest degree of concentrated fury to the most subtle shade of the mind's day-dream, present arguments and examples sufficiently numerous to render my view of this case at least plausible.

At the incipiency of the case, I do not for an instant doubt the presence of those fragments of spiders, and perhaps one or two entire, but my opinion is, that subsequently, terror, superinduced upon the idiosyncrasy described, dethroned the judgment; hallucination usurped its seat; a morbid concatenation was excited, and the patient, under the control of this influence, was urged irresistibly to introduce them from day to day, until the morbid series was exhausted. I cannot express myself more forcibly than by adopting the language of M. Ollivier addressed to the Court at Paris, in behalf of a young girl arraigned for the murder of an infant. She confessed to *have given it ten pins to swallow from time to time*. M. Ollivier said, "he was inclined to attribute the present act to *one of those unaccountable perverse impulses which are not unfrequent in certain females, more especially about their menstrual periods*."—(*Lancette Francaise*, 1839.) M. Dupuytren says, "I have seen at the Hotel Dieu, a great number of women and children, who had been affected with the

strange mania of swallowing pins and needles." He then gives the case in detail, and concludes by saying, "on examining the body after death, *several hundred pins and needles* were found scattered through the viscera, muscles, cellular substance, &c."

I will, lastly, merely refer to that extraordinary form of insanity described in the *Journal de Progres*, for 1828, under the title of Periodical Vino-mania. It is reported by M. Pierquin, who says, "the disorder commenced fifteen years ago in the shape of an *irresistible impulse* to swallow wine day and night, without the possibility of satiety. The *paroxysms last from two to three months*, with an interval of equal duration, when it returns again *without any prodrome* that might indicate its approach."

I here close this case, extraordinary in its character under any aspect, and if my view of it be a correct one, it will afford another to the many which are to be found in nearly every work professing to analyze the yet inscrutable character of the human mind.—*American Journal of the Medical Sciences.*

OFFICE OF THE SPLEEN—THEORY OF FAINTING.

To the Editor of the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal.

SIR,—The office of the spleen can only be inferred from its known organization. Any explanation of the office of the spleen, or of any other organ, which is not in conformity with its organization, must necessarily be erroneous. The organization of the spleen is extremely simple; its vessels consist only of an arterial and a venous system. The splenic artery, as all anatomists have shown, is much larger than is necessary for the nourishment of the organ itself. In some instances, it is twice or three times its ordinary size. This enlargement or size of the splenic artery must have been caused by the quantity of blood sent into it, as no other cause could give size to this or any other artery. The size of the splenic artery is, therefore, the measure of the quantity of blood which passes through the spleen. There is no reason to suppose any less activity in the circulation of the blood through the spleen than through the brain, where the veins are equally tortuous, or through any other organ. The quantity of blood, then, which passes from the arterial to the venous system through the agency of the spleen, is sufficient to operate vital effects upon the system at large.

The office of the spleen appears very evidently to be the secretion* of venous blood from the arterial system. I do not know the use of this secretion, or I should say rather the final cause of it, any more than I know the use of the secretion of the urine or of the perspiration.

By the rules of induction we must suppose the spleen to be as much controlled (by which I mean as much hastened or retarded in its action) by the passions and emotions of the mind, by the internal and external sensations of the body, and by the action of medicinal substances, as the

* See an article by the writer of this essay, "On the Venous Secretion and Circulation," in the New England Medical Journal for 1826 or 1827, edited by Drs. Ware and Channing.

other organs of the body. The heart, the stomach, the kidneys, the bowels, and the lachrymal glands, are wonderfully quickened or retarded in their offices by the passions and emotions of the mind, and by the sensations. It must be borne in mind that the spleen is supposed to be subject to *precisely* the same vicissitude of action as those organs which I have named.

Fainting is produced by loss of blood either from the veins or arteries. By this loss the brain and other organs are suddenly deprived of a portion of their accustomed stimulus or sustenance, and they cease to act. Fainting follows great and sudden evacuations of all kinds, and a want of a supply of food and drink; but it is in all these cases evidently upon the same principle, viz., a sudden detraction of blood from the brain and other vital organs. I cannot conceive of fainting while the brain and other vital organs are properly supplied with arterial blood. Death might ensue in such a case, but I think fainting could not.

Great fear and deep dread will also cause fainting. Persons who faint from fear or dread, appear in every respect like those who faint from loss of blood. The same paleness overspreads the whole external surface, as if a loss of blood had actually occurred. Now supposing the spleen to be as much accelerated in its action as the lachrymal glands are when they let off a flood of tears from sorrow or grief; or as much accelerated as the action of the heart is, by the emotion of joy, or as the bowels and kidneys are by fear, the amount of blood suddenly transferred from the arteries to the veins through the spleen would produce precisely that paleness of the surface and cessation of action in the brain and other vital organs, which take by a loss of blood from the arm. A detraction of arterial blood must take place from the brain and from the vessels proper to the heart. It may be objected, that fainting from fear arises from the effect of that passion directly upon the heart, paralyzing its action; but, under the influence of fear or dread, the heart actually beats harder and fuller while a deep paleness pervades the whole surface, an effect not at all in conformity with the action of the heart; for when the heart beats the hardest, the color should be the most florid, unless the arterial blood is drawn off in a different direction. Joy, too, increases the action of the heart; but people faint from joy. In these cases, is it not presumable, by the strictest induction, that the spleen, acting as it does directly and entirely upon the arterial mass of blood, the proper and only stimulus of organs, the source of color and vital action, is by a sudden and copious secretion of venous blood, the real cause of fainting? Nervous people are almost habitually subject to fainting, or to a state of the system which very nearly approaches to it, from the slightest affections of the mind or the body. The smell of a drug, the taste of an herb, or the sight of blood or a person wounded, will with many people produce fainting. The ancients supposed the spleen of such people to be diseased, and common people of the present day call them *spleeny*, as if, from common consent or tradition, the spleen had some real agency in the promotion of those strange feelings and vicissitudes of feelings to which nervous people are subject. Indeed, I think that nearly all the symptoms of which

nervous people complain, may be explained by that paucity of arterial blood which all the organs must experience from an enlargement of the splenic artery; in consequence of which a large portion of blood passes through the spleen without reaching the general circulation. In all sedentary people, it appears to me that the blood must have a tendency to pass through the spleen, as from the vicinity of that organ to the heart, it must receive the blood with more force than the extremities and more distant parts; but in active people this effect would not follow, as the general circulation is hastened by exercise. Observation shows that sedentary people are most liable to become *spleeny*; or, according to the foregoing theory, to have the circulation of the blood carried on through the spleen. It must be obvious to every one that the circulation of an undue quantity of the blood through the spleen, would cause an emaciation of the body and habitual paleness of the skin, which are also characteristics of fainting and nervous people. The spleen of many such people, after death, has been found to be enlarged, and its arteries and veins to be of a corresponding size. In conformity with the theory of fainting here offered, those people who have been most subject to fainting during life, and to habitual paleness of the skin, should present, after death, an enlargement of the splenic vessels, or an unusual development of that organ.

D. B. SLACK.

Providence, July 7th, 1843.

STRANGULATED INTESTINE.

To the Editor of the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal.

SIR.—Having noticed the reported case of the Hon. H. S. Legare, by Dr. Bigelow, I send you a somewhat similar one which came under my observation while House Physician to the City Hospital, New York, in the year 1829. I take it from my case-book, as I recorded it at the time of its occurrence. I place it at your disposal, to be made such use of as you may judge proper. Respectfully yours, &c.

Portland, Me., July 10th, 1843. WM. TORREY THURSTON.

Wm. Boyd, a seaman, of a full and plethoric habit, aged 33 years, was admitted into the New York Hospital on the 13th day of April, 1829, laboring under, to all appearance, a violent attack of colica.

Being in extreme pain, we could not obtain a very minute history of his case as to the mode of attack, duration, or the treatment which he had been under. All that could be obtained from him was, that three days ago, viz., on the 10th, he felt some slight pain in the bowels, to relieve which he took a dose of salts. This did not operate, but the pain having ceased, he paid no further attention to the constipated state of the bowels; but on the following day, the 11th, he walked out some distance, and, unfortunately encountering a shower of rain, got thoroughly wet. On his return home, he took some brandy toddy and went to bed. The next morning, the 12th, he took another dose of salts, but without pro-

ducing the desired effect ; the pain all this time was by no means severe, nor did he feel any acute pain until the morning of his admission, viz., on the 13th inst. At that time, becoming anxious about the constipated state of the bowels, and whilst soliciting nature, he felt, as he described it, a sensation as if he had a ball of fire in his intestines. This appeared to run on from duodenum to the termination of the rectum, crossing very rapidly from one side to the other, in the course of the sigmoid flexure of the colon.

His symptoms when admitted, were, as before mentioned, violent and excruciating pain in the bowels, there being, however, no increased pain on pressure ; the pulse was small, frequent and corted ; on the countenance was depicted great anxiety ; sensations of heat flashing over the whole body were also experienced. Immediately after his admission a warm bath was administered ; fifteen grains calomel after the bath, followed by a strong preparation of the black draught. Twenty leeches were applied to the abdomen, succeeded by warm and emollient fomentations. Three enemata were thrown up, but these were returned without the least particle of alvine matter. The obstinate constipation continuing, and the patient suffering indescribable agony, it became advisable to relieve his sufferings by means of opiates ; accordingly half a grain of sulph. morphia was administered every half hour. This had the effect of mitigating the pain, and he remained comparatively easy till about midnight, at which time the abdomen, before flaccid, now became suddenly extremely hard, and very much distended, evidently by flatus ; this state of affairs continued till half past 1, A. M., when death put an end to his sufferings with his life.

Post-mortem Examination.—On exposing the contents of the thoracic cavity, these viscera presented a perfectly natural and healthy appearance ; therefore were passed over with a very superficial examination. Being convinced that his disease was confined to the bowels, we hastened to extend our researches to the abdominal cavity. On laying the peritoneum bare, we could, through its transparent structure, readily discover the discolored intestines. On removing this membrane, the splanchnated bowels came fairly into view, and such an appearance none present had ever before witnessed. So remarkable a condition of the intestines was presented to our view that we were induced to request Professor J. M. Smith to be present during our examination. The doctor promptly attended, and remained with us while the dissection was carried on. The cause of this man's death was occasioned by the total strangulation of the intestines, producing rapid inflammation and subsequent mortification. The strangulation was produced by the colon being twisted and contorted, as it were, on itself ; this portion of the alimentary canal was strangulated about three inches above the rectum, and forming a ring ; the jejunum was slipped through this ring, and the calibre of this intestine becoming distended with the accumulation above the strictured part, and probably by the evolution of gas, the knot became more strained, and finally firmly bound down, completely incarcerating the whole of the jejunum and ileum—about three inches of the colon being strictured by its folding on itself,

and kept in that position by the mesentery, which was reflected over it, and became involved in this tangled state of the bowels. The nature and appearances of this case were indeed very singular, and well represented a perfect case of internal hernia.

By a little care these strangulated parts could be disentangled, and returned again to the strictured condition.

THE BOSTON MEDICAL AND SURGICAL JOURNAL.

JULY 26, 1843.

Homœopathic Prison Statistics.—In the Cayuga Patriot of July 5th, published at Rochester, N. Y., may be found an address by Dr. Pitney, before the Cayuga Medical Society, on the 1st of June. The peculiar and most striking feature in this discourse, is the keen examination which Dr. Pitney makes of Dr. Humphreys's homœopathic practice in the Auburn State Prison, during his official relationship to that institution. We copied the account of Dr. Humphreys's success, as it appeared in a country paper, but not feeling precisely satisfied about its statistical correctness, publicly called upon Dr. H., in a special paragraph, to satisfy the medical public in regard to it. But Dr. P. exhibits him in no enviable aspect, and so satisfactorily explains whatever was obscure in regard to the use of medicine, and the success of the new practice among the arch rogues of the establishment, that no further elucidation seems necessary from that source. It will be recollected that *Dr. Humphreys's Report to the Inspectors* represented that from the 2d day of December, 1841, to the 3d day of April, 1842, there was no death in the Hospital, and the cost of medicine was only \$71 62—homœopathic treatment being practised during that time by Dr. H.; whereas during the next nine months of allopathic treatment, under Dr. Pitney's care, the deaths were 7, and the cost of medicine during five of those months, \$283 53. In Dr. Pitney's analysis of this statement, he mentions the important facts that the homœopathic treatment was commenced as early as May, 1841, and that between that time and the 2d of December, there were five deaths. He also states that in the month of October of that year, \$128 20 were paid for medicines which Dr. H. used, and that a further supply to the amount of \$43 50 was obtained from Dr. Robinson.

"The Hospital Reports," says Dr. P., "show clearly that from the 2d day of December, 1841, to the 4th day of April, 1842, there was a more remarkable prevalence of good health among the convicts than in any other portion of the whole year, or of almost any other year; and if Dr. Humphreys with his homœopathic medicines prevented the occurrence of any death during the above period, why did he not prevent the occurrence of those five deaths above mentioned, during the six months immediately preceding the 2d day of December, 1841?"

"The following periods of time," Dr. P. continues, "without a death in the Auburn State Prison, taken from the Hospital Obituary Régister, are undoubtedly correct, and occurred when the Hospital was exclusively

under "*allopathic practice*," and before Dr. Humphreys, with his homœopathy, had anything to do in the Prison Hospital.

"First period, from the 19th of September, 1826, to the 23d day of December, a period of three months and four days, there was no death, and *no homœopathy*. Second, from the 23d of December, 1826, to May 5th, 1827, a period of four months and twelve days, there was no death and *no homœopathy*. Third, from October 16th, 1828, to May 12th, 1829, a period of seven months, lacking four days, there was no death and *no homœopathy*. Fourth, from September 14th, 1834, to January 16th, 1835, a period of four months and two days, there was no death and *no homœopathy*. Fifth, from May 29th, 1835, to September 13th, a period of three months and fifteen days, there was no death and *no homœopathy*. Sixth, from November 18th, 1838, to April 8th, 1839, a period of four months and twenty-one days, there was no death and *no homœopathy*; with the exception of the notorious case of John Winterscale, who was suffocated instantaneously by attempting to swallow a large piece of beef without chewing it. It rested upon, and closed the top of, his windpipe, and he died in full health. Seventh, from October, 3d, 1839, to January 9th, 1840, a period of three months and six days, there was no death and *no homœopathy*."

In conclusion, Dr. P. makes out a statement of the cost of medicines under the two systems—giving Dr. H. seven months, during which time the cost was \$230 33; in five months of his own time, it was \$214 69.

Quinine in Intermittents.—At a meeting of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, in London, May 22, a paper was read by C. W. Bell, M.D., stationed in Persia, containing some account of an epidemic which had prevailed at Teheran. Our friend and fellow countryman, Dr. Sewall, of Washington, was present at the meeting, and made some remarks on Dr. B.'s paper, which we copy.

"Dr. Sewall recognized the disease described in the paper as the result of malarial influence. He had found the diseases arising from malaria in America to simulate almost every kind of disease. He had seen it simulate epilepsy and mania; he had seen cases in which there was no re-action from the first seizure, the coldness gradually extending from the fingers and toes to the centres in six or eight hours, and terminating life. There were cases in which nothing would avail. In very bad cases he had given large doses of quinine, as much, indeed, as thirty grains every two hours. Five-grain doses, however, were the usual ones, or one grain every hour. In very bad cases no external influences had the least effect upon the patient; and if the large doses of quinine failed, he died. In some cases large doses of quinine seemed to produce bad effects. In the very severe cases, however, the brain did not appear to be injured by the quantity given; it was in cases of a less severe character that quinine produced its effect upon the brain. At first it caused deafness, and he had seen it produce stertorous breathing and a dilated pupil. All these symptoms were relieved by the application of a blister to the head or forehead, and the employment of purgatives. He might observe, however, that these symptoms occurred so seldom that they formed no kind of objection whatever to the use of quinine. Opium, in ordinary intermittents, would, in doses of two or three grains, often arrest

the progress of the fever at its commencement. When the cases were very bad it was thought that the employment of opium was a dangerous experiment, but when the powers of life were less affected it was a valuable remedy."

Quackery by Wholesale.—Who has not heard of a certain notorious, vagabond, English *eye-doctor*, whose peregrinations through New England, a few years since, were the triumph of a consummate hypocrite over the credulity of the unfortunate poor. Many in the city of Boston rue the day that they gave him money to the whole extent of their humble means, without having even a tithe of benefit. The way in which the sympathizing clergy were made the indirect tools of the gross impostor, whose apparent religious zeal was but a disguise for cheating the more effectually, must color them with shame when they recal the ridiculous part they played in the game.

He is now old, despised, and abominated by those who have hung the longest to his skirts; but, true to his original character, he is scheming for one grand finale, before turning his back upon the country forever. His advertisement is unparalleled in the history of unflinching quackery, and is introduced in this place on account of its extraordinary and unblushing boldness. He wishes to *sell out*—and here follows the general description of the stuff to be disposed of, and the quantities.

"Lot 1. He has about one hundred gallons of his nine remedies for the cure of diseased eyes and blindness, all of which were prepared by himself, and secured in iron-bound casks, which will keep good, with only ordinary care, for any length of time, and in any climate (a few drops only of which have cured many single individuals). The above will constitute his numbers, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and will be found calculated to cure all the diseases of the eye, eyelids and blindness (unless counteracted by neglect or intemperance) from whatever cause, except cataract, which always requires a surgical operation. To this lot will be added several thousand circulars, of large dimensions (containing authenticated cures) and twenty copies of his treatise entitled "Every man his own Oculist"—together with the copyright of said book. Should one gentleman from five or six of the large cities desire it, Mr. W. would consent to divide the 1st and 2d lots for their accommodation, and he has no doubt but a vast many cures would be the result of each of them.

"Lot 2. He has also for sale three or four thousand packets of his remedies No. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 9, which are all ready for delivery. Each packet contains the above treatise, with one circular, and ample instructions for every case, except total blindness, for the cure of which his Nos. 6 and 7 or 8, is indispensable. To this lot will also be added several thousand circulars and twenty copies of his treatise.

"Lot 3. He has also for sale a quantity of his remedies for the diseases of the ear and deafness, which also he will sell without any restrictions; to which will be added a quantity of large circulars, containing cures of deafness, and twenty copies of his treatise above named. These remedies have been very useful to great numbers, and in high repute in Europe, upwards of forty years, on account of their superior efficacy.

"(If Mr. W. prefers to sell them all by private contract (though he might receive less than by auction) to one or more professional or non-professional gentlemen, either together or separate."

Medical Intelligence from Siam.—A letter has been received at the Mission House, Pemberton square, from Dr. Bradley, dated at Bangkok, January 23, 1843, which mentions that experiments to obtain vaccine virus by inoculating the cow, had failed of success, and resort was necessarily had to inoculation of smallpox with a view to lessening its virulence. Dr. Bradley's youngest child had died in the desiccating stage of smallpox, which is the most fatal and desolating disease known to that country. Vaccine virus was successfully introduced there, from Boston, about two years since, but it could not be propagated. The pustule was perfect, and the protection complete in all who were operated upon with the imported matter, but the lymph taken from their arms would no longer reproduce itself in a second crop of patients. This fact is now well established, and therefore admits of no doubt. Dr. Bradley fully believes, if we understand him rightly, that there is a certain something in the constitution of the atmosphere, which produces this unfortunate result. Whether the annual rains, the periodical thunders and lightnings, or the intense heat of the seasons, are the agents in effecting the change, cannot yet be satisfactorily determined. We shall feel greatly indebted to Dr. Bradley if he will present the profession of his native country, with his views and recent observations on this particular subject.

The Stafford (Conn.) Mineral Springs.—A writer in the Hartford Courant, gives the following notice of these springs.

"There are two distinct springs, situated near each other and within a few rods of the hotel, the medical qualities of which are considered as essentially different. One of them contains a solution of iron sustained by carbonic acid gas, a portion of marine salt, some earthy substances, and what has been called natron or a native alkali. This spring has been known and used for a long period, and has been pronounced by chemists to be one of the most efficacious chalybeate springs in the United States. In Barber's Connecticut Historical Collections, it is stated that the Indians first made the settlers acquainted with the virtues of this spring as early as 1719, when this part of the country began to be settled, it having been their practice from time immemorial to resort to it in the warm season, and plant their wigwams around. It is stated also that about the year 1774 this spring was carefully examined by the celebrated Dr. Warren, of Boston, who then had thoughts of purchasing the land on which it rises, with a view of establishing himself upon it. Subsequent events, however, transformed the physician into a soldier, and Dr. W. fell in the first great struggle of the Revolution, at Bunker Hill, while acting as Major-general. The other spring, the medicinal virtues of which were not known till about the year 1810, contains, according to the opinion of Professor Silliman, who examined it that year, a larger proportion of hydrogen gas and sulphur, and a smaller proportion of iron."

Homœopathic Use of Arnica.—Under the head of *Arnica and its Uses*, Dr. Epps, of London, forwarded to the *Lancet*, for publication, a case in which a child, who had fallen upon its head, which accident was followed by severe fever, was treated with three globules of aconite, impregnated with aconite tincture at the octillionth dilution, in two ounces of

water, a fourth part to be taken immediately; and to be alternated every four hours, with the same quantity of arnica, impregnated with arnica tincture at the billionth dilution. The next day he was convalescent, and a similar dose once a day was declared to have completely restored him.—The editor of the *Lancet*, in publishing the case, changes Dr. E.'s caption to that of "making believe to administer Arnica."

Snake Bites at the West.—Our correspondent in Louisiana, who states that he has collected some statistics upon the snakes of that section, the effects of their bites, &c., is informed that we shall be happy to receive them for publication, together with any other papers which his leisure and inclination may enable him to furnish.

Philadelphia Medical Society.—A neatly-printed pamphlet, containing the Charter and By-laws of this Society, has been received. We learn from it that the Society was instituted in 1789, first incorporated in 1792, and re-chartered in 1827. The By-laws, we presume, have been lately revised, though there is no mention of this in the pamphlet. They contain, as was mentioned in this Journal a short time since, provisions by which membership is forfeited by the "practising or sanctioning any system of quackery or imposture, including what is called *homoœopathia*;" also by "reporting practice, including surgical operations, in other than medical works." The Association appears to be in a flourishing condition, and its present officers are among the leading members of the profession in the city.

Quarantine Laws.—The empire city appears to be very much dissatisfied with the existing quarantine regulations. Witness the following extract from the *Journal of Commerce*. After advertizing somewhat in detail to the rigor of their sanitary regulations, and to the inconveniences to which the merchants are subjected in consequence of these regulations, the writer goes on to say:—

"For twenty years the port of Boston has been free from quarantine for all vessels arriving in a healthy condition. Hundreds of thousands of dollars have been saved by this enlightened policy, and no damage has ever come to the health of the people. Yet New York gropes on with the policy of the middle ages, and Roman Catholic superstition. Truth makes slow headway against the selfishness of politicians, for no sooner does a party obtain power, and so the ability to make reforms, than it finds the continuance of the abuses of its predecessors claimed as the reward of its own partisans. It is only when the great mass of the people, goaded beyond endurance by the abuse of partizanship, turn their attention to these abuses and demand redress, that politicians find their hopes from the spoils outbalanced by the indignation of the community."

Dr. Forry's New Medical Journal.—The first No. of the *New York Journal of Medicine and the Collateral Sciences*, edited by Samuel Forry, M.D., the prospectus of which we noticed some time since, has been received. It makes a very respectable appearance, and will fully meet the

expectations excited by the prospectus. See the advertisement of the agents on our outside page.

Lemon-juice in Dropsy.—Dr. Schwabe, of Gross Rudestdt, reports the case of a man, 75 years of age, the subject of dropsy, to whom, as if in the last extremity, he was hastily called. For several weeks the patient had been able to maintain only a sitting position, his hands and feet were enormously swollen; there was extensive fluctuation all over the abdomen, and the scrotum was so tumefied that the penis was scarcely perceptible. The pulse was feeble and intermittent. Dr. Schwabe at first prescribed acetic ether, which he afterwards combined with lemon-juice, ordering a tablespoonful of the latter, freshly expressed, every two hours. All kinds of fluid, besides, were rigidly prohibited, the food consisting of three ounces of (white) meat, and as much bread, three times a day. On the second day after the adoption of these means, abundant diuresis ensued, with a diminution of the pains previously felt in the chest. The dose of lemon-juice was increased to half as much more. The urinary secretion now became so abundant that six quarts of urine were passed in twenty-four hours. From this time the patient was able to lie in bed, and he slept well for several hours. The pulse rose, and ceased to be intermittent; the swellings of the abdomen and extremities gradually decreased. The strength of the patient became renovated; digestion improved; the stools were solid and duly colored, and towards the end of the treatment indicated, which continued for three weeks, the quantity of urine daily passed to its natural quantity. Less doses of lemon-juice were now adopted; and by the thirtieth day of the treatment all the symptoms of dropsy, even the œdema, had vanished. In two months the patient had become able to resume his daily occupation.—*Casper's Wochenschrift.*

Poisoning by Hemlock and by Cherry-laurel.—A case occurred lately in France in which hemlock eaten in salad, had made a number of persons ill, though the cook had, on a previous occasion, some days before, plucked a quantity of leaves from the identical plant of hemlock, mistaking it for chervil, and which, having been used in soup, were eaten without injury. In truth, hemlock is productive of no ill effect in soup, as its medicinal principle, conine, is volatile, and consequently dispelled by boiling. In 1809, when the French troops bivouacked before Madrid, a soldier cut down several branches of cherry-laurel for spits on which to roast meat. The bark having been unluckily stripped off, the juices of the wood penetrated the meat, and of twelve soldiers who ate of the latter, seven died.—*London Lancet.*

DIED.—At Providence, R. I., Dr. Joseph Mason, for many years an eminent physician of that city.

Number of deaths in Boston, for the week ending July 22, 39.—Males, 19—Females, 20. Stillborn, 4.
Of consumption, 3—dropsy, 1—dropsy on the brain, 5—scarlet fever, 1—hooping cough, 1—drowned, 2—scrofula, 2—smallpox, 1—convulsions, 1—infantile, 1—disease of spine, 1—teething, 2—inflammation of the stomach, 1—fits, 1—tumor, 2—dysentery, 1—influenza, 1—palsy, 1—inflammation of the lungs, 1—contraction of the stomach, 1—bowel complaint, 1—palpitation of the heart, 1.
Under 5 years, 16—between 5 and 20 years, 3—between 20 and 60 years, 18—over 60 years, 2.

Statistics of Cancer.—The following are the results of researches on the prevalence of this disease throughout France, which have been made with much care and accuracy on the part of M. Le Roy d'Etiolles:

Of 2751 cases occurring in the practice of 174 surgeons, 1227 happened in individuals above forty, and 1061 to others above sixty years of age. The cases of cancer of the uterus were about thirty per cent.; of the breast twenty-four per cent. Cancer of the mouth was in women only as one to one and a half per cent., while in men (probably from the use of the tobacco-pipe) it was as much as twenty-six per cent. Cancers supposed to have been of hereditary transmission figured only as 1 in 278 (?); while those induced by scrofula were as 1 in 10; and by syphilis as 1 in 5.

The most useful part of the inquiry is that which is brought to bear on the utility or otherwise of operating on cancers. Out of 1172 patients not operated on, 18 lived more than thirty years after the first appearance of the disease; while out of 801 operated on by excision or caustic, the existence of only 4 was prolonged for a similar lapse of time; 14 patients operated on, and 34 not operated on, lived for a period of from twenty to thirty years; and 88 in the first category, and 228 in the second, lived from six to twenty years after the first appearance of the disease. The ordinary duration of life after this period among persons not operated on, is said to be five years for men, and five and a half for women; while among those operated on, it is no more than five years and two months for men, and six years for women.

From these results the natural conclusion is, that the ablation of cancer (leaving out of account the risks attending the operation itself) does little, even when successful, to prolong life, and is therefore (in France, at least) of very questionable utility. Results like these, startling as they may seem, and however they may demand subsequent corroboration, are, at least, indications of the light which statistical science is enabled to throw upon the actual and relative value of many of the aids in medicine and surgery, of which we at present avail ourselves.—*London Lancet.*

Curative Effect of Heat on a Sting from a Wasp.—A. M. Mege, in the course of last summer, had the misfortune to be stung by a wasp on the top of his middle finger. The unlucky gentleman, having no *eau de luce*, ammonia, or similar remedy at hand, suddenly thought of placing a burning match close to the wound. This *light* application in a few seconds caused the pain and swelling from the sting to disappear.—*Ib.*

Decoction of Oak Bark.—This preparation has of late been strongly recommended by a French practitioner as an injection into dropsical cysts, as hydrocele, &c., after their previous contents have been drawn off. It is said to exert a marked tendency in preventing a subsequent accumulation of fluid. Its active astringent quality suggested to the above practitioner that it might be serviceable in promoting the contraction of the ring after the reduction of recent inguinal hernia; and the application for some time of compresses impregnated with a strong decoction of oak-bark, kept *in situ* by a truss or bandage, has been in his practice attended with this result to the most satisfactory extent.—*Gazette Medicale.*